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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Janay, Gad, and Yampel, Todd
Title of Invention	:	CONFIGURABLE TERMINAL CAPABLE OF COMMUNICATING WITH VARIOUS REMOTE COMPUTERS
Filed	:	July 10, 1997
Serial No.	:	08/889,975

The Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Petition to Make Special and accompanying fee of $130 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i). The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any fee deficiencies from our deposit account No. 11-0223. Applicant represents that all of the claims hereof are directed to a single invention, and that if the Examiner disagrees, an election without traverse will be made.

A preexamination search was done, at the direction of the undersigned attorney, by the firm of Schwartz and Weinreib, Arlington, Virginia. Before conducting the search, our searcher checked with an Examiner from Group Art Unit 2773 regarding the relevant fields of search. As a result of that discussion, a search was conducted in class 345, subclasses 329 and 332 through 335. As a result of our search, the following nine patents were located: 5,530,961; 5,432,901; 5,491,780; 5,361,344; 5,553,223;

4,586,158; 5,649,131; 5,289,574; 5,392,390.

Before turning to a specific discussion of the differences between the claimed subject matter and the prior art, a brief overview of applicants' inventive technology is believed helpful. The invention relates to a technique of utilizing a remote server to facilitate communications between a host and a terminal such as an NC terminal. In operation, the NC terminal communicates with the server and obtain appropriate software for communicating with the host. Software is then implemented to establish a communications session with the host. Once establishing such a session, different screens of information are downloaded from the host to the NC terminal. The NC terminal, upon receiving the screen, either reads a screen ID sent by the host or generates its own screen ID and then transmits the screen ID to the server. The server then sends the NC terminal information indicative of how to display the information downloaded from the host. The server uses the screen ID to determine what information to send to the terminal.

U.S. Patent No. 5,530,961 describes a technique for generating an identification of a screen of information. This has little if any relevance to the "three way" system recited in applicants' claims and described above.

U.S. Patent No. 5,432,901 to Harper shows a technique of generating local formats for screens to be displayed. There is no suggestion to use different communications sessions, one between a server and the local NC terminal, and a second between the NC terminal and the host, in order to implement communications software between the host and the terminal, and in order to display downloaded screens of information.

U.S. Patent No. 5,491,780 describes a technique for updating portions of a screen. However, the three way protocol described above and recited in all of applicants' claims is not disclosed or even remotely suggested.

U.S. Patent No. 5,361,344 describes a system which enables a UNIX program to operate with a block mode terminal even though the program is designed to operate with a character mode terminal. The reference appears to have nothing to do with the claimed invention.

U.S. Patent No. 5,553,223 describes a technique for distributing user interfaces between a host computer and an intelligent terminal. However, the technique of utilizing a separate server to download communications software and screen format information is not described anywhere in this reference.

U.S. Patent No. 4,586,158 teaches an online interactive application program for use with a variety of different screen

characteristics. The invention allows a terminal to generate and process a device dependent data stream, but also fails to suggest the use of a separate server for sending, to a terminal, information regarding display of information.

U.S. Patent No. 5,649,131 relates to a communications protocol for facilitating the exchange of interface information between a host processor and a terminal. The protocol is totally implemented between a host and a terminal, and there is no suggestion to use a separate server to implement communications software and to assist in formatting screens of information for display at the terminal.

U.S. Patent No. 5,289,574 relates to a system which provides multiple virtual screens on a display. Again, the "three way" architecture claimed in applicants' invention is neither disclosed nor even remotely suggested.

Finally, U.S. Patent No. 5,392,390 relates to a technique of translating dissimilarly formatted data between separate computer applications. There is no mention of screen recognition and formatting being accomplished by a separate server.

In view of the foregoing discussion of all of the references, applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presently drafted are patentable over all of the prior art. Applicant represents that no Office Action has yet been received in this application.

Applicant respectfully request that special status be accorded the application and expedited examination ensue.

The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any additional fees due from our deposit account No. 11-0223.

Respectfully Submitted,
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JIK/mc

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service as first class mail, postpaid envelope, addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 1/13/98

Dated 1/13/98 Signed Melissa Castaneda

Print Name Melissa Castaneda